

Message Text

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43

ACTION MC-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1143

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: MILI SZ

SUBJ: LAWS GOVERNING FIREARM IMPORTATION

REF: STATE 177789

1. HERewith SUMMARY SWISS PROCEDURES. AIGRAM FOLLOWS.
2. FEDERAL MILITARY DEPT. CONTROLS IMPORT OF WAR MATERIALS, WHICH GENERALLY INCLUDE ALL WEAPONS OF 6.2 MM CALIBER OR OVER, EXCEPT THOSE FOR HUNTING OR SPORT.
3. GENERALLY, FIREARMS UNDER 6.2 MM CALIBER AND HUNTING AND SPORT WEAPONS OF ANY CALIBER MAY BE IMPORTED WITHOUT SPECIAL LICENSE.
4. AGENCY WITHIN MILITARY DEPT. CONTROLLING IMPORT OF WAR MATERIALS (EXCEPT POWDER) IS KONTROLLSTELLE FUEr DEN HANDEL MIT KRIEGSMATERIAL, WHICH ISSUES DOCUMENT IN TWO COPIES TO IMPORTER, ONE FOR PRESENTATION TO CUSTOMS AND ONE TO RETAIN.
5. IMPORT OF POWDER FOR WAR MATERIALS IS MONOPOLY OF THE EIDGENOESSISCHE PULVERVERWALTUNG, A FEDERAL AGENCY, WHICH THEREFORE COMPETENT ISSUE ITS OWN DOCUMENTS INDICATING FEDERAL GOVERNMENT APPROVAL OF IMPORT.

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6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSE TO IMPORT WAR MATERIALS ARE NOT DEFINED. HOWEVER, PERSONS OR FIRMS WISHING TO PROCURE AND DEAL IN WAR MATERIALS MUST APPLY FOR PERMIT, PRESENTING A LIST OF MATERIALS TO BE HANDLED, PROOF OF SWISS RESIDENCE, AND EXTRACTS REGARDING THEMSELVES FROM THE COMMERCIAL REGISTER, THE TAX REGISTER, AND THE BANKRUPTCY REGISTER.

7. ALL DEALINGS IN WAR MATERIALS MUST BE RECORDED IN DETAIL BY THE AUTHORIZED HANDLER, WHOSE RECORDS ARE REGULARLY EXAMINED BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES.

8. PURCHASE WITHIN SWITZERLAND (OTHER THAN THROUGH IMPORT) OF FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION OF ALL SORTS IS LIMITED TO PERSONS HOLDING A PERMIT ISSUED BY CANTONAL (EQUIVALENT OF STATE) AUTHORITIES, USUALLY THE POLICE DEPT. PERMITS ARE ISSUED ONLY TO PERSONS 18 YEARS OR OVER, OF GOOD REPUTATION WITH NO CONVICTIONS, AND PURPOSE FOR ACQUISITION MUST BE STATED.

ODELL

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